

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

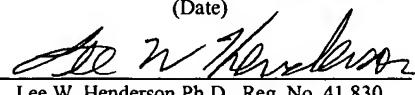
Applicant : Diab et al.
Appl. No. : Unknown
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PROCESSING APPARATUS
AND METHOD
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : Unknown

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

March 2, 2004

(Date)



Lee W. Henderson Ph.D., Reg. No. 41,830

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments in connection with the above-captioned application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.